United Nations

ST/SG/AC.10/42

Secretariat

Distr.: General
27 January 2015

Original: English

Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Report of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals on its seventh session

held in Geneva on 12 December 2014

Contents

		Paragraphs	*Page*
I.	Attendance	1–5	3
II.	Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)	6	3
III.	Election of officers (agenda item 2)	7	3
IV.	Resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council (agenda item 3)	8–10	3
V.	Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods during the biennium 2013–2014 (agenda item 4)	11–12	4
VI.	Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals during the biennium 2013–2014 (agenda item 5)	13–14	4
VII.	Programme of work for the biennium 2015–2016 (agenda item 6)	15–17	5
	A. Programme of work	15	5
	B. Calendar of meetings	16–17	5
VIII.	Draft resolution 2015/... of the Economic and Social Council (agenda item 7)	18	6
IX.	Any other business (agenda item 8)	19	6
X.	Adoption of the report (agenda item 9)	20	6

GE.15-01079 (E)

1501079

Please recycle

Annexes

I. Amendments to the eighteenth revised edition of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations (ST/SG/AC.10/1/Rev.18)[1] 7

II. Amendments to the fifth revised edition of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Manual of Tests and Criteria (ST/SG/AC.10/11/Rev.5)[2] 7

III. Amendments to the fifth revised edition of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) (ST/SG/AC.10/30/Rev.5)[3] 7

IV. Draft resolution 2015/...of the Economic and Social Council 8

[1] For practical reasons, this annex has been published as an addendum with the symbol ST/SG/AC.10/42/Add.1.

[2] For practical reasons, this annex has been published as an addendum with the symbol ST/SG/AC.10/42/Add.2.

[3] For practical reasons, this annex has been published as an addendum with the symbol ST/SG/AC.10/42/Add.3.

Report

I. Attendance

1. The Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals held its seventh session in Geneva on 12 December 2014.

2. Experts from the following countries took part in the session: Austria, Brazil, Canada, China, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States of America.

3. The European Union was represented.

4. Representatives of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) were present.

5. Representatives of the following non-governmental organizations were also present: American Cleaning Institute (ACI); Australian Explosives Industry and Safety Group Incorporated (AEISG), European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC); Federation of Paints and Coats of Mercosul (IFPCM); International Confederation of Plastics Packaging Manufacturers (ICPP); International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA); International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA); Sporting Arms & Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute (SAAMI)

II. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/41 (Secretariat)

6. The Committee adopted the provisional agenda prepared by the secretariat.

III. Election of officers (agenda item 2)

7. Mr. J.M. Hart (United Kingdom) and Mrs. M. Ruskin (United States of America) were elected President and Vice-President respectively.

IV. Resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council (agenda item 3)

Informal documents: INF.17 submitted at the forty-fourth session of the TDG Sub-Committee
INF.8 submitted at the twenty-sixth session of the GHS Sub-Committee

8. The Committee took note of the Economic and Social Council's resolution 2013/25 of 25 July 2013 and noted that, since no application for membership in the Committee or any of its sub-committees was received during the biennium 2013-2014, it remains as follows and as detailed in the explanatory notes to the agenda:

- Committee of Experts: 40 members;
- Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: 30 members;

- Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals: 36 members.

9. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the secretariat had published the eighteenth revised edition of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations (ST/SG/AC.10/1/Rev.18), Amendment 2 to the fifth revised edition of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Manual of Tests and Criteria (ST/SG/AC.10/11/Rev.5/Amdt.2) and the fifth revised edition of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) (ST/SG/AC.10/30/Rev.5) in all official languages of the United Nations except for the Chinese version of the GHS that was available in electronic form only pending printing.

10. It was also noted that the three publications were also available in electronic format:

(a) On the website of the Transport Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (www.unece.org/trans/danger/danger.htm) in all official languages of the United Nations; and

(b) Separately in pdf format, as sales publications.

V. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods during the biennium 2013-2014 (agenda item 4)

Documents: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/86 and Add.1
ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/88
ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/90
ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/CRP.3 and Add.1 - 11
ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/CRP.4 and Add.1 - 6

11. The Committee took note of the reports of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG Sub-Committee) on its forty-third, forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions. The Committee noted also that the Sub-Committee had adopted the report on its forty-sixth session (1 –9 December 2014) on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/CRP.3 and Add.1-11 and -/CRP.4 and Add. 1-6) with some slight modifications. The final report has been issued as ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/92.

12. The Committee endorsed the reports of the Sub-Committee, including the amendments to the existing recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods and the new recommendations made (see annexes I and II).

VI. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals during the biennium 2013-2014 (agenda item 5)

Documents: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/50
ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/52
ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/54
ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2014/CRP.3 and Add.1 - 3
ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2014/CRP.4

13. The Committee took note of the reports of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS Sub-Committee) on its twenty-fifth, twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh sessions. The Committee

noted also that the Sub-Committee had adopted the report on its twenty-eight session (10–12 December 2014) on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2014/CRP.3 and Add. 1-3 and -/CRP.4) with some minor changes. The final report has been issued as ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/56.

14. The Committee endorsed the reports of the Sub-Committee, including the amendments to the existing text of the GHS and the new provisions adopted (see annex III).

VII. Programme of work for the biennium 2015-2016 (agenda item 6)

(a) Programme of work

Informal documents: INF.1 and INF.2 (Secretariat)

15. The Committee approved the programme of work of the two sub-committees as reflected in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/92, paragraph 95 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/56, annex III.

(b) Calendar of meetings

Informal document: INF.3 (Belgium, France and United Kingdom)

16. The Committee considered that all efforts should be made to avoid duplication of discussions in both sub-committees. The experience of sharing meeting time for joint discussion of the corrosivity criteria in the biennium 2013–2014 had proven to be successful for enhancing cooperation between the two sub-committees. The Committee felt that if the two sub-committees agreed to do so at their next session, they would have the opportunity to meet jointly for one full day at their second and third sessions in order to avoid duplication of work in relation to issues of common interest. This would lead experts of both sub-committees to participate in two additional meetings during the biennium, but would not entail any additional conference costs since it would not affect the global number of meetings allocated.

17. Informed by the secretariat about the availability of conference facilities, the Committee agreed that the schedule of meetings for 2015-2016 should then be as follows:

2015

22–26 June:	TDG Sub-Committee, 47th session (10 meetings)
29 June–1 July:	GHS Sub-Committee, 29th session (5 meetings)
30 November – 9 (morning)[4] December:	TDG Sub-Committee, 48th session (15 meetings)
9 (afternoon)[4] – 11 December:	GHS Sub-Committee, 30th session (5 meetings)

Total:
TDG: 25 meetings[4]

GHS: 10 meetings[4]

[4] With possibility for both sub-committees to share the meetings allocated to their respective sessions for meeting jointly all day on 9 December 2015 and 6 July 2016.

2016

27 June – 6 (morning)[4] July:	TDG Sub-Committee, 49th session (15 meetings)
6 (afternoon)[4] – 8 July:	GHS Sub-Committee, 31st session (5 meetings)
28 November–6 December:	TDG Sub-Committee, 50th session (14 meetings)
7–9 (morning) December:	GHS Sub-Committee, 32nd session (5 meetings)
9 (afternoon) December:	Committee, 8th session (1 meeting)

Total:

TDG:	29 meetings[4]
GHS:	10 meetings[4]
Committee:	1 meeting

VIII. Draft resolution 2015/... of the Economic and Social Council (agenda item 7)

Informal document: INF.16 (46th session, TDG Sub-Committee)/INF.9 (28th session, GHS Sub-Committee) (Secretariat)

18. The Committee adopted a draft resolution for consideration by the Council at its 2015 session (see annex IV).

IX. Any other business (agenda item 8)

19. No issue was discussed under this agenda item.

X. Adoption of the report (agenda item 9)

20. The Committee adopted the report on its seventh session and the annexes thereto on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.

[4] With possibility for both sub-committees to share the meetings allocated to their respective sessions for meeting jointly all day on 9 December 2015 and 6 July 2016.

Annex I

Amendments to the eighteenth revised edition of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations (ST/SG/AC.10/1/Rev.18)

(See ST/SG/AC.10/42/Add.1)

Annex II

Amendments to the fifth revised edition of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Manual of Tests and Criteria (ST/SG/AC.10/11/Rev.5)

(See ST/SG/AC.10/42/Add.2)

Annex III

Amendments to the fifth revised edition of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) (ST/SG/AC.10/30/Rev.5)

(See ST/SG/AC.10/42/Add.3)

Annex IV

Draft resolution 2015/... of the Economic and Social Council

"Resolution 2015/...

Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1999/65 of 26 October 1999 and 2013/25 of 25 July 2013,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals during the biennium 2013-2014,[1]

A Work of the Committee regarding the transport of dangerous goods

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals for the harmonization of codes and regulations relating to the transport of dangerous goods,

Bearing in mind the need to maintain safety standards at all times and to facilitate trade, as well as the importance of these issues to the various organizations responsible for modal regulations, while meeting the growing concern for the protection of life, property and the environment through the safe and secure transport of dangerous goods,

Noting the ever-increasing volume of dangerous goods being introduced into worldwide commerce and the rapid expansion of technology and innovation,

Recalling that, while the major international instruments governing the transport of dangerous goods by the various modes of transport and many national regulations are now better harmonized with the Model Regulations annexed to the Committee's recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods, further work on harmonizing these instruments is necessary to enhance safety and to facilitate trade, and recalling also that uneven progress in the updating of national inland transport legislation in some countries of the world continues to present serious challenges to international multimodal transport,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals with respect to matters relating to the transport of dangerous goods, including their security in transport;

[1] E/2015/xx [to be completed by the symbol of the report].

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To circulate the new and amended recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods[2] to the Governments of Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other international organizations concerned;

(b) To publish the nineteenth revised edition of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Model Regulations*[3] and the sixth revised edition[4] of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Manual of Tests and Criteria* in all the official languages of the United Nations, in the most cost-effective manner, no later than the end of 2015;

(c) To make those publications available in book and electronic format as well as on the website of the Economic Commission for Europe,[5] which provides secretariat services to the Committee;

3. *Invites* all Governments, the regional commissions, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the other international organizations concerned to transmit to the secretariat of the Committee their views on the work of the Committee, together with any comments that they may wish to make on the recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods;

4. *Invites* all interested Governments, the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and the international organizations concerned to take into account the recommendations of the Committee when developing or updating appropriate codes and regulations;

5. *Requests* the Committee to study, in consultation with the International Maritime Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the regional commissions and the intergovernmental organizations concerned, the possibilities of improving the implementation of the Model Regulations on the transport of dangerous goods in all countries for the purposes of ensuring a high level of safety and eliminating technical barriers to international trade, including through the further harmonization of international agreements or conventions governing the international transport of dangerous goods;

6. *Invites* all Governments, as well as the regional commissions and organizations concerned, the International Maritime Organization and the International Civil Aviation Organization to provide feedback to the Committee regarding differences between the provisions of national, regional or international legal instruments and those of the Model Regulations, in order to enable the Committee to develop cooperative guidelines for enhancing consistency between these requirements and reducing unnecessary impediments; to identify existing substantive and international, regional and national differences, with the aim of reducing those differences in modal treatment to the greatest extent practical and ensuring that where differences are necessary they do not pose impediments to the safe and efficient transport of dangerous goods; and to undertake an editorial review of the Model Regulations and various modal instruments with the aim of improving clarity, user friendliness and ease of translation;

---

[2] See ST/SG/AC.10/42/Add.1 and 2.

[3] ST/SG/AC.10/1/Rev.19.

[4] ST/SG/AC.10/11/Rev.6.

[5] www.unece.org/trans/danger/danger.html.

B Mutual administrative support for monitoring compliance of "UN" marked containment systems with the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations

Noting with satisfaction that, due to the effective implementation of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods through national, regional and international legally binding instruments, as described in paragraph [...][*] of the report of the Secretary-General, dangerous goods which are moved internationally have to be contained in packagings, containers and tanks bearing a "UN" mark certifying that they correspond to a design type that has been successfully tested under control of the competent authority of the State authorizing the allocation of the mark;

Noting with concern that irregularities in, or forgery of, certification of "UN" packagings have been observed in international transport, leading to the use of packagings that do not meet the required performance level and increasing the risk of dramatic accidents that would affect the public, workers, means of transport, properties and environment;

Recalling the basic principle laid down by the Committee that "The competent authority should ensure compliance with these Regulations. Means to discharge this responsibility include the establishment and execution of a programme for monitoring the design, manufacture, testing, inspection and maintenance of packaging, the classification of dangerous goods and the preparation, documentation, handling and stowage of packages by consignors and carriers, to provide evidence that the provisions of the Model Regulations are being met in practice.";

Recognizing that mutual administrative assistance between competent authorities of countries concerned would facilitate investigations and improve compliance assurance, but is currently prevented due to lack of information on contact details of competent authorities at worldwide level;

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To seek information from all member States of the United Nations, and other States if appropriate, on the contact details of:

(i) The competent authorities responsible for national regulations applicable to transport of dangerous goods by modes of transport other than by air or by sea;

(ii) The competent authorities (and their country identification codes) allowing, in the name of the State, the allocation of the "UN" mark on packagings, pressure receptacles, bulk containers and portable tanks;

(b) To develop and maintain up-to-date the list of contact details;

(c) To make this information available on the website of the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Europe[3] which provides secretariat services to the Committee;

2. *Invites* all member States to provide the requested information.

---

[*] [To be completed]

C Work of the Committee regarding the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Bearing in mind that in paragraph 23 (*c*) of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[6] countries were encouraged to implement the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals as soon as possible with a view to having the system fully operational by 2008,

Bearing in mind also that the General Assembly, in its resolution 57/253 of 20 December 2002, endorsed the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and requested the Economic and Social Council to implement the provisions of the Plan relevant to its mandate and, in particular, to promote the implementation of Agenda 21[7] by strengthening system-wide coordination,

Noting with satisfaction:

(a) That the Economic Commission for Europe and all United Nations programmes and specialized agencies concerned with chemical safety in the field of transport or of the environment, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Maritime Organization and the International Civil Aviation Organization, have already taken appropriate steps to amend or update their legal instruments in order to give effect to the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals or are considering amending them as soon as possible;

(b) That the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization are also taking appropriate steps to adapt their existing chemical safety recommendations, codes and guidelines to the Globally Harmonized System, in particular in the areas of occupational health and safety, pesticide management and the prevention and treatment of poisoning;

(c) That national legislation or standards implementing the Globally Harmonized System (or allowing its application) in one or several sectors other than transport have already been issued in Australia (2011), Brazil (2009), China (2010), Ecuador (2009), Japan (2006), Mauritius (2004), Mexico (2011), New Zealand (2001), the Republic of Korea (2006), Russian Federation (2010), Serbia (2010), Singapore (2008), South Africa (2009), Switzerland (2009), Thailand (2012), United States of America (2012), Uruguay (2009), Viet Nam (2009) and Zambia (2013), as well as in the 28 countries members of the European Union and the 3 countries members of the European Economic Area (2008);[8]

(d) That work on the development or revision of national legislation, standards or guidelines applicable to chemicals in the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System continues in other countries, while in some others

---

[6] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[7] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[8] Information on implementation of the Globally Harmonized System by country and through international legal instruments, recommendations, codes and guidelines is available from www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/ghs/implementation_e.html.

activities related to the development of sectoral implementation plans or national implementation strategies are being conducted or are expected to be initiated soon;[8]

(e) That a number of United Nations programmes and specialized agencies and regional organizations, in particular the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the International Labour Organization, the World Health Organization, the Economic Commission for Europe, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Governments, the European Union and non-governmental organizations representing the chemical industry, have organized or contributed to multiple workshops, seminars and other capacity-building activities at the international, regional, subregional and national levels, in order to raise administration, health sector and industry awareness and to prepare for or support the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System,

Aware that effective implementation will require further cooperation between the Subcommittee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals and the international bodies concerned, continued efforts by the Governments of Member States, cooperation with the industry and other stakeholders, and significant support for capacity-building activities in countries with economies in transition and developing countries,

Recalling the particular significance of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the International Labour Organization and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Global Partnership for Capacity-building to Implement the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals for building capacities at all levels,

1. *Commends* the Secretary-General on the publication of the fifth revised edition of the *Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals*[9] in the six official languages of the United Nations, in book form and on CD-ROM, and its availability, together with related informational material, on the website of the Economic Commission for Europe[5] which provides secretariat services to the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals;

2. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to the Committee, the Economic Commission for Europe, United Nations programmes, specialized agencies and other organizations concerned for their fruitful cooperation and their commitment to the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To circulate the amendments[10] to the fifth revised edition of the *Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals* to the Governments of Member States, the specialized agencies and other international organizations concerned;

(b) To publish the sixth revised edition of the *Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals*[11] in all the official languages

[9] United Nations publication, Sales No. 13.II.E.1.
[10] ST/SG/AC.10/42/Add.3.
[11] ST/SG/AC.10/30/Rev.6.

of the United Nations in the most cost-effective manner, no later than the end of 2015, and to make it available in book and in electronic format as well as on the website of the Economic Commission for Europe;[5]

(c) To continue to make information on the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System available on the website of the Economic Commission for Europe;[5]

4. *Invites* Governments that have not yet done so to take the necessary steps, through appropriate national procedures and/or legislation, to implement the Globally Harmonized System as soon as possible;

5. *Reiterates its invitation* to the regional commissions, United Nations programmes, specialized agencies and other organizations concerned to promote the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System and, where relevant, to amend their respective international legal instruments addressing transport safety, workplace safety, consumer protection or the protection of the environment, so as to give effect to the Globally Harmonized System through such instruments;

6. *Invites* Governments, the regional commissions, United Nations programmes, specialized agencies and other organizations concerned to provide feedback to the Subcommittee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System on the steps taken for the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System in all relevant sectors, through international, regional or national legal instruments, recommendations, codes and guidelines, including, when applicable, information about the transitional periods for its implementation;

7. *Encourages* Governments, the regional commissions, United Nations programmes, specialized agencies and other relevant international organizations and non-governmental organizations, in particular those representing industry, to strengthen their support for the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System by providing financial contributions and/or technical assistance for capacity-building activities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

D Programme of work of the Committee

Taking note of the programme of work of the Committee for the biennium 2015-2016 as contained in paragraphs [...][*] and [...][*] of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

Noting the relatively poor level of participation of experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the work of the Committee and the need to promote their wider participation in its work,

1. *Decides* to approve the programme of work of the Committee;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the participation of experts from developing countries and from countries with economies in transition in the work of the Committee, calls, in that regard, for voluntary contributions to facilitate their participation, including through support for travel and daily subsistence, and invites Member States and international organizations in a position to do so to contribute;

[*] [to be completed]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council in 2017 a report on the implementation of the present resolution, the recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods and the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.